## BIODEGRADABLE VEHICLES AND DELIVERY SYSTEMS OF BIOLOGICALLY ACTIVE SUBSTANCES

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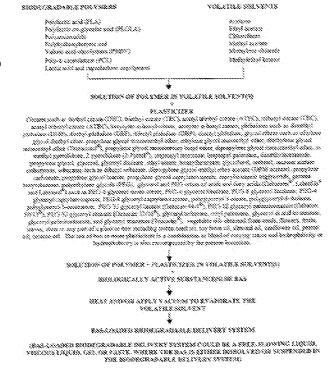
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Biodegradable vehicle and delivery systems of physiologically, pharmacologically and biologically active substance(s) (BAS) are provided. The biodegradable vehicles may be prepared by blending biodegradable polymers and plasticizers using a novel solvent evaporation method. This method involves dissolving the biodegradable polymer or copolymer and a plasticizer or mixtures of plasticizers into a volatile solvent or mixtures of volatile solvents. The volatile solvent is then removed using vacuum or at an elevated temperature or using a combination of both vacuum and elevated temperature. The biodegradable vehicle can be used as filler or spacer in the body. Biologically active substances (BAS) can be added to the biodegradable vehicle at any step during or after preparing the biodegradable vehicle, or just prior to using the biodegradable delivery system. This

biodegradable delivery system provides controlled release of the BAS over the desired period of time. The biodegradable vehicle or BAS-loaded biodegradable delivery system can be injected, implanted, smeared or applied in vivo in an animal, bird or human.



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